

Remarks:

Claims 1-20 remain for consideration in this application.

In response to the species election requirement, Applicants hereby elect Species B depicted in Figure 3. However, Applicants traverse the Examiner's position that none of the claims of the present application are generic to all four species.

Apparatus claims 1 and 15 are independent in this application and broadly recite three features: a substantially ridged shell, a resiliently yieldable liner, and a substantially ridged retainer ring attachable to the shell. It is Applicants' position that all four species fall within the scope of claims 1 and 15. The following table identifies these three features in each species by reference numeral.

Feature	Species A	Species B	Species C	Species D
Shell	22	96	124	138
Liner	24	98	126	140
Retainer Ring	26	100	128, 130	142, 144

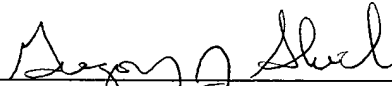
In Species C and D, please note that the retainer ring is shown as two parts that when coupled together are attachable to the shell. Therefore, it is clear that claims 1 and 15 are generic to all four species indicated by the Examiner as all species comprise at least these three elements.

Independent claim 17 pertains to a method for hip arthroplasty and recites at least broadly the same three elements described above. Therefore, it too is generic with respect to all four species.

Applicants respectfully request that claims 1, 15, and 17 be considered as generic to all species identified by the Examiner.

Any additional fee which is due in connection with this amendment should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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